

Members Bits and Pieces

- Hannah Wiener's son Stephen played soccer while attending Brown University. In 1967 his team was undefeated. On May 5, 2007, Stephen and his teammates were inducted into the Brown University Athletics' Hall of Fame. **Congratulations!**
- Victor Greenberg's granddaughter Blythe Greenberg is engaged to marry Samuel Josovitz. The bride is a graduate of UCONN and the groom attended the Culinary Institute of America. The wedding is planned for August 17, 2008. **Congratulations!**
- Mollie Linner is celebrating the birth of her first great granddaughter and Pauline Chernick's great niece. Dora Leigh was born at 5:45 pm on February 2, 2008. Dora Leigh weighed 7 lbs, 12 oz and was 19 1/2 inches long. Her parents are Peter and Gail Grady. **Congratulations!**
- Hannah Wiener's grandson, Joshua Wiener, is engaged to marry Dana Yazmer. The wedding is scheduled for Labor weekend in 2008. **Congratulations!**
- Bea Rosenberg's son-in-law, Richard Robinson, who is married to Bea's daughter Anndee, was installed as chairman of the Board of Trustees for Hebrew Health Care on January 2, 2008. **Congratulations!**
- Verna Moidel is celebrating the birth of her new grandson. Jesse Moidel, was born on February 13, 2008 and weighed 7 lbs, 8 oz and was 21 inches. His parents are David and Fawn Moidel. **Congratulations!**
- Devorah Lehrer's granddaughter, Sariann Lehrer, graduated from the University of Vermont with a degree in Animal Science. Sariann is working with Dr. Stewart, a veterinarian in Windsor, CT. **Congratulations!**
- Harold and Betty Jacobs celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary on March 6, 2008. Harold and Betty were married on Harold's birthday in Birmingham, England in 1949. **Congratulations!**

Poem submitted by Stephen Goodman, Member

Deeper than the ocean, sudden as a breeze.
Always there like clouds and air, growing like the trees.
Cozy warm like sweaters, fuzzier than socks.
Sweet like maple sugar, older than the rocks.
Brighter than a birthday, longer than a mile
Bigger than the universe, lighter than a smile.
Sparkly like soda pop, that tickles when it fizzes
Someone, thinking of you, loves the thing that this is.

SummerWood Sights & Sounds

Hoffman
SummerWood
Community

A member of the Hebrew Health Care family



Spring 2008

SUMMERWOOD WINS ITS THIRD CALA BEST PRACTICES AWARD!



Photo: Front row l to r: Patricia Vega, Anabela Ferreira, Joan Carney (Executive Director), Deborah Breedlove-Watts, Sue Rohrig
Back row l to r: Randolph Scott, Adriana Lajoie, Al Jordan, Jay Bourret, Amanda Sisson-Barnes, Christine Winters and Karen Mudgett

Hoffman SummerWood Community was once again honored by receiving their third Best Practices Award for Managed Residential Services from the Connecticut Assisted Living Association (CALA) during their annual meeting held on December 4th at the Hawthorne Inn in Berlin, CT.

This award recognized the *Legacies of Love* event that was held as part of the National Assisted Living Week celebration this past

September. At this celebration, family members honored their loved ones for their achievements, contributions, and family traditions with letters that they provided to SummerWood in advance of the affair.

Our second Best Practices CALA award was for a program titled "Stellar Employees...how to keep your Stars shining bright". Our members are quick to comment on how dedicated, caring and helpful SummerWood staff is and rely on them for assistance, which is a testament to how well this program functions.

The first Best Practices CALA award we received was for the "Cardex System" designed for the Front Desk Staff. This system helps to provide consistency and efficiency and enables our staff to respond quickly and confidently to any emergencies. SummerWood continues in its mission to exhibit excellence in the Assisted Living Communities.

Share *Your* News!

Hoffman SummerWood Community is pleased to publish our most recent version of SummerWood Sights & Sounds, our very own newsletter. We invite members and staff to complete the "news slips" located in the Lobby and submit them to Debbie at the front desk. The newsletter will be published quarterly. Deadline for the Summer issue is **May 15th**. Don't delay—submit today!

SummerWood Celebrates its Seventh Anniversary

On Tuesday, January 15, 2008, Hoffman SummerWood Community celebrated its 7th Anniversary with a party for members in the Café. Since opening in January 2001, SummerWood has been a home to over 150 members. We currently have 65 members, including four married couples, one father and son and one set of sisters.

The members enjoyed refreshments of hot hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks and cake. There was music, dancing and smiles all around in celebration of our anniversary. The members shared stories of how they came to make SummerWood their home. Some of the reasons included: being near family, not having to cook or clean, or their previous homes were too large. All agreed since coming to SummerWood they are happy, comfortable and well taken care of and love the SummerWood staff. We look forward to another year of memories with our SummerWood family.



Enjoying SummerWood's 7th Anniversary Celebration, seated from left to right are members: Esther Kandel, Minna Panzer, Ida Levenglick, Joan Carney, (Executive Director) Verna Moidel and Anne Zevin.

SummerWood ReMembers

SummerWood has a new club! The SummerWood ReMembers Club, formed in January 2008, consists of two groups: one that meets monthly to make craft items and another group that delivers the crafts to former SummerWood members now living at the Hebrew Home. The first outing was on a cold, rainy January day. Our members, bringing New Years cards and balloons, headed over to Hebrew Home to wish seventeen former SummerWood members well. This new club gives meaning and purpose to its members, rekindles friendships and brings good cheer to all. Any member interested in joining the SummerWood ReMembers Club or who would like additional information may contact Karen Mudgett.



Shown left to right are: former SummerWood member, Marcia Cheikin and current SummerWood members, Minna Panzer and Vita Gellin.

Harp Performance By Joan and Julie

Most executive directors create and implement operating budgets, attend a variety of committee meetings, hold question and answer sessions for members, review payroll and billing, oversee all aspects of various projects and administrative functions. But it takes a unique leader to play the harp. Joan Carney, along with harper, Julie Shrake, entertained SummerWood members and staff with their 2nd harp performance on Thursday, February 14th. Joan and Julie performed a medley of songs including Sidh Beag Sidh Mor, Greensleeves, Atholl Highlanders and Danny Boy.



Pictured above l to r: Julie and Joan playing the Celtic harp.

The folk harp or Celtic harp is small to medium sized and designed for traditional music and can be played solo or with small groups. It is prominent in Welsh, Breton, Irish, Scottish or other Celtic cultures within traditional or folk music and as a social and political symbol. A note of interest, Joan's harp was specifically created for her as she is a left-handed harper. The harp and its soothing timbre have been respected as a healing instrument by many cultures for thousands of years. The members were quietly enjoying the music and you could see them relaxing as they listened. Thanks Joan and Julie for sharing your music with SummerWood!

Member Minute - Lee Birnbaum



Photo of Lee Birnbaum

Lee Birnbaum was born on December 23, 1915, in New Britain, CT and lived there until 1978 when she moved to West Hartford, CT. Lee married in 1941 and has three children, Rueben, Pam and Sylvia. She is a gem of a mother who is adored by her children, her grandchildren and now her great grandchildren. Everyday at least one of them is either calling or visiting her.

Lee was the first person to officially sign up when SummerWood opened for business in 2001. Who would have believed that at this age Lee would be painting pictures, ringing bells and singing her heart out? Well, she's doing all of these things and more and having a ball. Lee loves to go shopping at Talbots, enjoys going out to lunch, and looks forward to a ride in the country. She has been at SummerWood for seven years and she loves it ...and we love her!